

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /052 W
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O P 212020Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3408

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR IMMEDIATE

USCINCSO PRIORITY

UNCLAS TEGUCIGALPA 3535

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, ES, HO

SUBJ: GOH NOTE TO OAS ON BORDER INCIDENTS

REF: (A) TEGUCIGALPA 3476 (DTG 191815 JULY 76), (B) STATE 179290

BEGIN SUMMARY: THE GOH FOREIGN MINISTRY ISSUED THE TEXT OF A TELEGRAM SENT TO THE OAS COMMITTEE OF SEVEN WHICH DENOUNCED A SALVADORAN ATTACK ON ITS TERRITORY, CALLED FOR AN INVESTIGATIVE COMMISSION, AND REITERATED THE GOH'S INTENTION TO FIND A PROMPT SOLUTION TO THE CONFLICT WITH SALVADOR. LOCAL PRESS REPORTS SALVADORAN FONMIN BORGANOVO'S MEETING WITH THE COMMITTEE OF SEVEN IN WASHINGTON. THE PRESS ALSO CARRIED AN ACAN-EFE REPORT FROM SAN JOSE ABOUT TELEPHONE CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN THE PRESIDENTS OF COTA RICA, GUATEMALA, AND NICARAGUA CONCERNING THE BORDER INCIDENTS. END SUMMARY.

1. THE FOREIGN MINISTRY SENT A TELEGRAM TO THE OAS COMMITTEE OF SEVEN ON JULY 20 REGARDING RECENT BORDER INCIDENTS. THE TELEGRAM MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS: (A) ON JULY 18, SALVADORAN TROOPS OPENED FIRE ON HONDURAN POSITIONS AT
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DOLORES; (B) HONDURAN TROOPS REPELLED THE ATTACK, THUS

PROVOKING AN ARMED CLASH; (C) THE FOREIGN MINISTRY DENOUNCES THE ATTACK ON HONDURAS' SOVEREIGNTY AND REQUESTS THE SENDING OF A COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE THE INCIDENT; (D) THE GOH REITERATES ITS PEACEFULNESS AND ITS FIRM INTENTION TO FIND A SOLUTION TO ITS DISPUTE WITH EL SALVADOR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE; AND (3) THE GOH REITERATES ITS FIRM DECISION TO SAFEGUARD THE SOVEREIGNTY AND PHYSICAL INTEGRITY OF THE COUNTRY.

2. THE LOCAL PRESS CARRIED A REPORT OF SALVADORAN FONMIN BORGONOVO'S MEETING WITH THE COMMITTEE OF SEVEN IN WASHINGTON ON JULY 19. IT STATES THAT DIPLOMATIC SOURCES IN WASHINGTON RELATED THAT BORGONOVO INFORMED THE COMMITTEE ABOUT THE STATUS OF PEACE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AND DISCUSSED RECENT BORDER CLASHES.

3. THE PRESS ALSO CARRIED A ACAN-EFE STORY FROM COSTA RICA REPORTING THAT PRESIDENT ODUBER SAID THAT THERE HAD BEEN A SERIES OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATIONS THE EVENING OF JULY 18 WITH PRESIDENTS LAUGERUD OF GUATEMALA AND SOMOZA OF NICARAGUA CONCERNING THE BORDER CLASHES. THE REPORT ALSO SAID THAT THERE WAS ACTIVITY AT THE LEVEL OF THE THREE FOREIGN MINISTRIES DIRECTED AT ACHIEVING A SOLUTION TO THE RISING TENSIONS AND ARMED CLASHES BETWEEN HONDURAS AND EL SALVADOR. REPORTEDLY, ODUBER ALSO SAID THAT THE SERIES OF MEETINGS WHICH HAD TAKEN PLACE BETWEEN THE FIVE CENTRAL AMERICAN CHIEFS OF STATE HAD ENDED BECAUSE THERE WAS NOTHING THAT COULD BE DONE ABOUT THE HONDURAS/ EL SALVADOR PROBLEM. HE SAID THAT HE AND FONMIN FACIO HAD MET WITH FONMIN BORGONOVO ON THE EVENING OF JULY 18 AFTER BORGONOVO HAD FLOWN TO COSTA RICA TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION.
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